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## USAID THAILAND COUNTER TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS

As a source, transit and destination country, Thailand faces multiple manifestations of trafficking in persons (TIP). TIP in Thailand is fueled by demand for low-skilled labor in sectors such as agriculture and fishing, tourism and construction, and is enabled by deep-rooted social discrimination, as well as a lack of regulation or enforcement. The USAID Thailand Counter Trafficking in Persons (USAID Thailand CTIP) initiative (2017-2022) aims to reduce TIP and better protect the rights of trafficked persons in Thailand by reducing demand and incentives for using trafficked labor, empowering at-risk populations to safeguard their rights, and strengthening protection systems for survivors.

### KEY APPROACHES

USAID Thailand CTIP employs a 5C strategy — community engagement, change agents, communication, collaboration and continuity — to achieve the aforementioned objectives.

Along with its partners and grantees, Winrock implements **community-led, sector-specific** approaches in collaboration with local officials, migrant and minority networks and the private sector.

USAID Thailand supports **change agents** from the private sector, government, migrant groups at-risk communities and the media. These champions are committed to combating TIP through example, focusing on empowering the vulnerable and sharing their experiences. Through targeted campaigns, change agents will aim to trigger widespread sectoral changes: reducing consumer tolerance for forced labor in products and services and increasing societal acceptance of trafficked persons.

**Communication and awareness** efforts focus on at-risk populations, government officials and the general public to foster trust, increase knowledge and amplify the voices of the vulnerable (including survivors), as well as improve protocols and coordination efforts.

Achieving the project's goals requires multi-stakeholder responses and **collaboration** among government, private sector and civil society actors. USAID Thailand CTIP capitalizes on the private sector and civil society momentum to address TIP in Thailand, supporting the Royal Thai Government's 2017-2021 National Plan of Action against Trafficking in Persons.

The four C's above contribute to USAID Thailand CTIP's emphasis on **continuity** and sustainability, as does the project's focus on improved business practices, increased trust between Thai and migrant populations and service systems supported by the Royal Thai Government-Civil Society Organization (RTG-CSO) collaboration.

In addition to the 5Cs, the project will incorporate critical crosscutting factors into all activities. These include a **gender equality and social inclusion** approach that mainstreams gender and social inclusion in all components, and the use of **innovative, data-driven solutions** — both technical and programmatic — to address emerging issues, research and service delivery.

## **GEOGRAPHIC FOCUS**

USAID Thailand CTIP prioritizes areas with increased risk of human trafficking, including known trafficking routes and locations where migrants are most often found most. Starting in the first year of implementation, USAID Thailand CTIP is targeting four different provinces in Thailand, including Bangkok, Chiang Rai, Surat Thani and Sa Kaeo. A fifth province will be identified following the results of baseline assessment and consultation with relevant stakeholders.

## **PARTNERS**

The project is implemented by Winrock International and its four core partner organizations – BBC Media Action, Liberty Asia, SSG Advisors and World Vision – who have specialized technical expertise in the areas of behavior change communications, protection and private sector engagement. In addition, USAID Thailand CTIP will partner with local civil society organizations to scale promising practices and promote holistic, needs-based, gender and culturally-sensitive services for at-risk groups and survivors.

## **CONTACTS**

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